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Jared Tapley sentenced for death of four-month-old

Tapley to serve 45 years in the Indiana Department of Correction

(Indianapolis, Ind.) Marion County Prosecutor Terry Curry announced today that Jared Tapley has been sentenced to 45 years executed in the Indiana Department of Correction for the February 2013 death of his girlfriend's infant daughter. Tapley pleaded guilty to Neglect of Dependent Resulting in Death (Class A Felony) in October 2014.

According to the probable cause affidavit, Tapley was babysitting four-month-old Nicole Williams when he called 911 stating the infant was not breathing. Tapley failed to provide explanation for the significant injuries Nicole suffered while in his care. Detectives obtained an IHSA State Championship basketball ring Tapley was seen wearing on the day of the incident. An autopsy performed on the infant noted the injury pattern on the left side of Nicole's face was consistent with Tapley's ring. The infant's cause of death was ruled to be blunt force trauma to the head.

A charge of a crime is merely an accusation, and the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.